Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – September 12, 2007

REPORTS

Minute No. 509 Overview of Winnipeg Housing Homelessness Initiative
File EX

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee directed the Administration to undertake a final review of the Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative (WHHI) that includes:

1. Outputs from the WHHI, including program and neighbourhood-specific outputs;
2. Changes in assessed values and market values in the designated Housing Improvement Zones;
3. Qualitative feedback on the WHHI, where possible,

and report back to its meeting in November 2007.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Wyatt,

WHEREAS in May 2000 the Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative (WHHI) was formed as a tri-partite partnership between the Government of Canada, the Province of Manitoba and the City of Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS the WHHI was set up as a Single Window Initiative to coordinate government-funded housing and homelessness programs;

AND WHEREAS the purpose of the WHHI is to stabilize neighbourhoods, increase property assessments, and provide more affordable accommodation - thus improving the overall health of Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS the City's financial commitments towards the WHHI flow through the Housing Rehabilitation Investment Reserve (HRIR);

AND WHEREAS the City has committed $8.32 million from the HRIR towards the WHHI since its inception;

AND WHEREAS the 2007 Operating Budget dedicated $1 million towards the WHHI through a transfer of funds to the HRIR and allocated funds as follows:

i) $200,000 for the Aboriginal Housing Program;
ii) $160,000 each for the William Whyte, Spence, North Point Douglas, West Broadway and Centennial Housing Improvement Zones.

AND WHEREAS the WHHI has spent a total of $98.6 million to repair, rehabilitate or construct 3710 housing units and 204 shelter beds;

AND WHEREAS the WHHI has produced a leveraging ratio of 10.2 for the City of Winnipeg (for every $1.00 committed in City funding and additional $10.2 is invested by other public/private sources);

AND WHEREAS the WHHI Agreement will expire on March 31, 2008;

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Administration be directed to undertake a final review of the WHHI that includes:

1. Outputs from the WHHI, including program and neighbourhood-specific outputs;
2. Changes in assessed values and market values in the designated Housing Improvement Zones
3. Qualitative feedback on the WHHI, where possible.

reporting back to the Executive Policy Committee in November 2007.

Carried

WINNIPEG HOUSING STEERING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On July 17, 2007, the Winnipeg Housing Steering Committee recommended to the Executive Policy Committee that the Administration be directed to prepare a report for consideration by the Steering Committee in the fall of 2007 outlining performance indicators (what is working very well and what could be working better) for each of the Housing Improvement Zones in order to determine funding requirements in the preliminary 2008 Operating Budget for the Winnipeg Housing Homelessness Initiative.